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Written for CANADIAN PHILATELIC WEEKLY.

## How to Exchange.

BY W. J. SABOURIN.

**I**N looking over my correspondence of five years ago, from collectors on this and the other continents, I am surprised to find such a great demand for our rare American postage stamps in exchange for the common European trash that has been a drug on the market since stamp collecting became general on this side of the Atlantic. It is curious, even now, to receive from collectors abroad lists of rarities which it is impossible to get for our own collections. They promise us in exchange a lot of good things, in the shape of stamps, and when we have been exchanging for a short time we receive what we might call "*Rare Continentals*" and the correspondence is dropped, owing to some misunderstanding between the two parties.

I would like to say a few words to American collectors regarding this mode of exchange, and give them a few hints that will help them out if they wish to keep on philatelic relations with their brother philatelists in distant lands, and are willing to entertain correspondence to that effect. After considering the matter thoroughly I have come to the conclusion that it is better to mount on sheets many varieties of South America, Central, U. S., Canada, and others which are difficult to obtain in the country you are sending them to. After they have all been placed, ready to mail mark the catalogue price on each stamp, and then, in writing your letter, ask the correspondent to send you what he thinks best of his continent, fixing the stamps in the same manner. It is almost impossible to keep an exchange going if you put on sheets stamps of your own country only. Your stock will become exhausted in a very short time, and if you have a good correspondent it will be disgraceful to leave him when you progress wonderfully in your exchange. There are some who do not take the trouble of arranging sheets neatly that they send out, and it is a pity to look how they work their exchange. They enclose in an envelope a lot of common stamps of their country and only put in a couple of rare ones. Of course, no one will be foolish enough to take what they receive, and they will return it at once. No doubt there is trouble arising between those who practice this way of exchanging. No rarities are coming in and the philatelist is almost discouraged to continue stamp collecting. If, on the other hand, he keeps his stamps nicely mounted he will be able to find out what his correspondent wants and thereby save money by buying only what is wanted for his or the other collection.

Now, is it preferable to buy from Approval Sheets or Packets?

I am sure that the collector who buys packets saves more money than the other. But I would suggest to collectors to buy sets; it is one of

the best things you can do. Try and get all the varieties you can from the country desired and you will be amply repaid for a few dollars you spend that way.

Written for the CANADIAN PHILATELIC WEEKLY.

## An Awful Possibility.

BY GUY W. GREEN.

**W**H. BARNES, librarian of the S. of P., was relieved of a sum of money, his gold watch and chain, overcoat, and numerous other trifles, on Nov. 27th. "Billy" figures up the loss at about \$160. Cause why? He was held up by two masked highwaymen who were not philatelists, for they failed to take any stamps, though he had several hundred dollars worth in his coat pocket. — *Weekly Philatelist*.

It is customary for ministers to select a text before they preach a sermon. Notice that I do not say "*about which to preach a sermon*," because more often than otherwise the discourse bears no relation to the verse of scripture, which is supposed to be parent to it. I, too, have chosen a text which I quote at the beginning of this article, but unlike my brethren of the pulpit, I shall endeavor to make the connection between the opening lines and later ones discernable to the ordinary intellect.

There are several lessons to be drawn from the Minneapolis occurrence, all of which are of more or less importance, and a few possibilities are spread before us that are calculated to terrify the ordinary philatelist who is peaceably inclined.

We are first told that the robbers who gave Mr. Barnes so much mental pain (and physical agony, perhaps, if he was forced to expose his overcoatless, sylph-like form to the chilling breeze of a frigid night), "were not philatelists." This statement may, at first thought, seem a trifle startling when regarded in all the nakedness of its *naivete*. But when we look at it more closely we find that it is not so surprising after all. Of course the highwaymen "were not philatelists." Who is there that even heard of a philatelist going out at the dead hour of midnight and with an active and energetic "slung shot" in one hand, and a disagreeable looking revolver in the other, "holding up" an unsophisticated innocent who chanced to be abroad at that unseemly time? No, Philatelists are not that kind of humanity. Poets tell us that they prefer to sit by the fire during the winter evenings and gloat over their albums. Our poets, like Geo. Washington, cannot tell a lie, and we are compelled to believe them. The full realization of the fact that no philatelists did the dastardly act which occurred in the dense wilds of a Minneapolis forest should cause every stamp collector's heart to swell with an inexpressible joy.

We are told, secondly, that the writer of the sad north-western news knows the robbers

were not acquainted with our hobby because they failed to take "several hundred dollars worth" of stamps from Mr. Barnes' "coat pocket." Why did they not take them? Because they did not realize the value of the specimens or, in other words, were ignorant of the merits and beauties of philately. They belonged to the great heterogeneous mass of our citizens whose obtuseness on stamp collecting subjects we so much deprecate. Suppose that these disciples of Robin Hood had been educated in all the strange lore of our brotherhood, where would "Billy's" treasures be then? Echo answers, "Where?" A dense and lugubrious gloom would prevail in Minneapolis to such an extent that it could be cut with the proverbial knife. Yet we, as philatelists, are trying to initiate everyone upon this round globe into the mysteries of stampdom. At our present rate of progress we bid fair to succeed in our attempt. But when we have succeeded what may we expect? A carnival of crime, robbery, murder and bloodshed? Everything in the land will be conversant with the worth of rare departments and revenues, and no philatelist will be able to tread the streets after nightfall in safety. A loyal subject of Philatelia will find it necessary to be attended home from society meetings by an armed bodyguard. Every dark alley will hold its quota of homicidally inclined thieves ready to spring upon the passing stamp collector and demand "his stamps or his life," not using the word, "stamps," in any metaphorical sense either. We shall no longer dare to carry our Sydney views and Brattleboros abroad with us, but, on the contrary, we are very likely to be compelled to place them under lock and key. The prospect is full of awful and hair-raising dangers.

Imagine, if you can, the portly Doebelin being "held up" by masked robbers who emptied his pockets, while our German friend stood, an unwilling victim, breathing out guttural maledictions upon their heads. Think for a moment of "Ike" Mekeel returning from his foreign trip with his pockets bulging with rarities only to have his eyes bulge worse than his pockets when some short-haired gent pokes a revolver under his nose and compels him to "stand and deliver." These fancies are too harrowing; and fearful lest my scalding tears blot the paper to such an extent that the printer will be unable to read these lines I desist.

In these reflections there is one consolation. Those of us who have no rare stamps will be comparatively safe. To us, a robber, no matter how great his moral turpitude, will be almost entirely innocuous. This is the only ray of light that illumines the darkness.

I cannot go further. I am overcome with an agony of fear—for for my fellows who have good collections and rare duplicates.

Brethren, weep with me.

Mr. Stanley Gibbons, of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., has just left on an eastern trip through Italy, Turkey and Palestine.

—THE—  
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L. M. STAEBLER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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SPECIAL NOTICES:

The number in the bracket on the wrapper indicates when your subscription expires. A prompt renewal will be necessary as we stop the paper immediately on expiration of subscription.

We prefer all remittances by Post Office Order. We do not accept unused stamps of any countries except Canada and the U. S. in payment for subscriptions and advertisements.

Our supply of back numbers is very limited, and numbers over one week old can only be obtained at 10c. each.

Address all communications, whether pertaining to our advertising, subscription or editorial departments—

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC WEEKLY,

185½ DUNDAS STREET,

LONDON, CANADA.

LONDON, CANADA, FEBRUARY 8th, 1894.

EDITORIAL.

The 15c. stamp of Philippine Islands has been changed in color to a pale brown.

A large quantity of Guatemala current issue cancelled to order are now on the market.

The new Bermuda post cards have been issued. They are printed in carmine on buff paper.

The state of Nepal, India, no longer issues postal cards; have discontinued their use recently.

We wonder if the portrait of Grover Cleveland and his daughter will appear on the new U. S. stamps.

The first installment of our illustrated catalogue of U. S. envelope stamps will probably appear next week.

The *Capitol Philatelist* is a new four-page paper, published and edited by Frank C. Ives, of Springfield, Ill.

The supply of the \$1.00 values of the Columbian stamps has already been exhausted at many of the large offices.

We see by the *Postal Card* that the one cent card of British Guiana is now issued without the word "Inland" at top.

We see by *Vindia's Philatelic Monthly* that the revenue stamps of Western Australia are now allowed to be used for postage.

Messrs. Thos. A. Innes & Co., Denmark St., London, England, will shortly issue a work entitled "Stamp Collecting up to Date."

Every dealer should have a copy of our new wholesale list. If you have not already secured one it will be sent you for the asking.

The Straits Settlement have issued two new post cards of the usual colonial type; one of these is the 2c. card and the other the 2c. reply card.

The Boston Philatelic Society will hold an auction sale at their next regular meeting which takes place on Wednesday evening, February the 20th.

The government of British Honduras having placed all the remainders of their provisional issue in the market are now contemplating a new issue.

Mr. E. T. Bemis, of Duluth, Minn., will issue a new paper called the *Zenith City Philatelist*, which will appear on February the 20th.

We have received a copy of the *Weekly Monitor*, a newspaper published at High Bridge, N. J., which devotes considerable space to philately.

Our contemporaries now seem to be satisfied on the point that the current issue of Samoa could be used for postage. We ourselves never doubted their authenticity.

The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. were very slow in delivering their new catalogue, but notwithstanding this they are ahead of the syndicate, who have not yet mailed theirs.

Roumania has issued two new stamps bearing the portrait of King Charles. The stamps are printed in two colors. The values are 1 len, brown with rose centre, and 2 len, orange with brown centre.

The Bogert and Durbin Co. have at last sold the famous New Haven envelope found by Mr. Sterling. It is said to have brought \$2,500.00, but the name of the purchaser and price obtained are not given.

The *American Philatelic Advertiser*, which was announced to appear from Brooklin, Ontario, some time ago, has not yet put in an appearance, and we have reason to believe that it will not appear as advertised.

*Le Timbre Poste*, of Brussels, Belgium, is the oldest stamp magazine in the world. Next to this comes the *Philatelic Monthly and World of Philadelphia*, Pa., which has just completed its twentieth year of continuous publication.

The American Philatelic Association desire to obtain several hundred more members before the next annual convention. Blanks and full particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, Alvah Davidson, 176 Broadway, New York City.

It was reported that the 1d. of Cook's Islands will be changed in color shortly. The new series of stamps, which are being made for the Hawaiian Government by the American Bank Note Co., are expected to be in circulation early in April.

We see by one of our contemporaries that of all the Americans whose portraits have appeared on U. S. postage stamps none are now living, and only ten of those whose features have graced the faces of the U. S. revenue stamps are still alive.

According to *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* a new issue of stamps is being prepared for China, each stamp of which issue will be of a different design, consisting of the familiar dragon in various shaped frames. A postage due set will also be issued.

Some enterprising genius is sending a circular around among stamp collectors announcing that he has for sale a chemical ink eraser, which, he suggests, may be used for removing the cancellations from used stamps, thus converting them into uncanceled specimens.

The Toronto Philatelic Club is now in active working order. This society is the leading local society of Canada. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month in the rooms of the club, which are situated in 14 Oddfellows' Building, corner Young and College Streets.

We have received the January issue of the *Detroit Philatelist*, which is one of the brightest and newsiest of our exchanges. The January issue contains some exceptionally fine reading matter. Although the paper is nearly two years old it has not yet been granted second-class rates.

We see by an article in the *Detroit Philatelist* that some of the portraits which appeared in the Christmas number of the *Pennsylvania*

*Philatelist* are not genuine. This surprised us, as we can scarcely believe that Mr. Kissinger would go so far as to insert a portrait which he did not know to be correct.

The United States Government seem inclined to regard with favor a suggestion which has been made to number all postage stamps in the same manner as bank notes. What next? Should this be done we suppose some of our enthusiastic specialists would collect all the different numbers, and in this way collections of 1,000,000 varieties would be common.

We have received the January number of the *Canadian Philatelic Magazine*. The paper is improving with age, and if Mr. Muirhead sticks to it he will yet have a first-class journal. Mr. A. M. Muirhead is secretary *pro tem.* for a new organization, which is called the "*Canadian Sons of Philately*." It is intended to limit membership to Canadian collectors. The Secretary invites correspondence.

Many of our readers will be familiar with the name of Thos. O. Pardee, jr., who for some time swindled dealers and collectors from his headquarters at Ingersoll, Ont. He has at last come to grief. It seems he advertised in a Toronto paper for five young lady typewriters to fill vacancies which never existed, and asked from each a fee of 25 cents, and the many letters which he received containing this amount were left unanswered. He has now gone to pay a visit of fifty days to the jail.

In another portion of this issue we present specimens of the illustrations which are being used in our Handbook No. 5, "*The Postage Stamps of the United States*." The book has been under way for the last three months and is almost completed and will be mailed by the 31st of this month. The illustrations used in this work have all been made by the half-tone process, and consequently at great expense. It will be printed on the best paper that can be procured and will be one of the most useful works ever issued for the use of the American collector. The price of the book is 50 cents. Orders may be booked now and the book will be sent immediately upon publication.

We have received a copy of the 54th edition of Scott's catalogue, and noticed therein a general advance of prices. The catalogue itself is far ahead of previous issues. Many new improvements are introduced, among which is a complete catalogue of postal cards, the different sizes of perforation and many varieties of paper which were hitherto omitted are now fully listed. We cannot but commend the action of the publishers in omitting to catalogue such stuff as the errors of the Hawaiian "*Provisional Government*" issue. British Colonial, United States, and British North American stamps of the older issues have all advanced considerably. The catalogue on the whole is one which does the publishers credit.

## Mr. Alvah Davidson.



THE above portrait of Mr. Alvah Davidson, the genial Secretary of the A. P. A., is that which appeared in the October issue of the *Canadian Philatelist*. Mr. Davidson is one of the prominent New York collectors, and is the possessor of a very fine collection and takes a keen interest in all matters pertaining to stamps. He has always taken an active interest in the American Philatelic Association, and has done much towards making the association a success. Mr. Davidson fills the editorial chair of the *Post Office*, which journal is well-known to most of our readers.

## Minneapolis Notes.

A new paper is announced to appear in Duluth during the month—*The Zenith City Philatelist*. Something above par is promised.

Geo. Achard, the S. of P. attorney, is acting as assignee for a defunct Minneapolis concern. He probably will not "get across the lake" as often as of yore.

"Billy" Barnes is expecting to spend a portion of the spring "out on the road" for his firm. He will of course *weather* all kinds of adventures.

The *Minneapolis Tribune* of the 2nd inst. reports that all the Columbians on hand at that office are sold. Can this good news be true?

One of the most interesting of the many relics preserved by the Minneapolis State Obsolete Society is the "pigeon holes" of the first St. Paul office established in the forties.

Robt. I. Mann, the newly appointed state vice-president of the P. S. of A., is endeavoring to organize a state branch of the new society.

The first sale of the N. W. P. A. was held January 15th. and proved quite successful. The second sale will be held not far from March 1st.

### An Editor's Opinion.

Newmarket, Jan. 15, 1894.  
Mr. L. M. STAEBLER, LONDON, CANADA:  
Dear Sir—Your new weekly received. It is a dandy.  
Yours truly, F. H. PINKHAM.

## Our Handbook No. 5.

The following are specimens of the superior illustrations being used in this book. See editorial note elsewhere.



The deficit in the U. S. treasury for the past year has been so great that it is expected that a tax will be placed on playing-cards, perfumery and other proprietary articles, and should a measure for this purpose pass through Congress it is not improbable but that we should see Proprietary Revenue stamps again come into general use.

From our special correspondent.

## Northwestern Happenings.

BY BOSWORTH.

St. Paul has a new firm, Mr. A. B. Nessonson and Mr. E. Beldon being the partners, under the style of Nessonson & Beldon.

Minneapolis is now blessed (?) with two papers, *The Northwest*, which has been running for nearly two years, and *The Minnesota Philatelist* just two months old. Both are well printed, though the contents of the latter might easily be improved.

And now Duluth comes to the front with the promise of a new journal. It will be called *The Zenith City Philatelist*, and will be run by E. T. Bemis, 515 East Second Street, Duluth, Minn. We will soon have a surfeit of our class journals, but the old theory of "the survival of the fittest" will undoubtedly apply.

Mr. F. S. George is contemplating a change of residence. He has an offer of a good situation at Fargo, and if he goes Minneapolis will lose one of her most ardent collectors. Well good luck Frank, but we hope to occasionally see your face in the "banana belt."

W. C. Whitall, the exchange superintendent of The Northwestern Philatelic Association, informs me that he has three books on circuits amounting to about \$1.25. By the way, this society is coming rapidly to the front in both membership and influence.

The A. P. A. can soon look for five new members from these parts. The fellows have at last awakened to the fact that the A. P. A. is something of a society, and that it pays to join it. We hope many other Northwestern collectors will take interest enough in it to send their applications.

During the recent curling bonspiel at St. Paul there were present many Winniepeggers, and rumor has it that some of them possess fine collections. It was your scribe's misfortune to be out on a trip and thus the pleasure of meeting some of them was denied.

Mr. Chas. E. Williams, the efficient auction manager of the Northwestern Philatelic Society, says that the second sale will occur on March 15th, and he hopes to have his catalogue ready by February 15th. There are some excellent things in it and the bidding will be quite lively. Anyone wishing a list may obtain one by writing him at Palmyra, Wis.

On December 30th one of Minneapolis' old time collectors crossed the river to which we are all advancing, Mr. H. Hezel. Harry, as I knew him, was one of "nature's noblemen," and his sudden demise has caused a vacancy among us which will never be filled.

From our special correspondent.

## CHICAGO NOTES.

BY CHRIS. PETERSON.

The N. P. U., Branch No. 1, held a special meeting at J. A. Pierce's rooms on the evening of January 31st and elected officers for the following year. The well-known Chicago collector, A. E. Fritz, was elected president, A. R. Neing, Vice-President, and C. B. Bergquist, Secretary-Treasurer. After the election the Exchange department was settled up, which leaves that department in first-class shape. The dues for the branch will be \$1.50 per year. Meeting adjourned 10 p. m.

The C. P. S. held their regular meeting on the evening of February 1st, at the society's rooms in the Masonic Temple. After their regular routine of business, Dr. B. A. Cottlow, who was elected Exchange Manager at the previous meeting, distributed exchange books among the members at the nominal price of three for a quarter. The 29th reserve auction sale was announced for February 15th. Meeting adjourned at 10.30 p. m.

The meetings of Branch No. 1, P. S. of A., have not been held regularly, owing to much sickness among the members, but a meeting will soon be called and all Chicago members are expected to be present.

\* Canadian collectors are warned against a Chicago party offering complete sets of used Columbians for four dollars per set. It is a rank swindle, and several complaints have been received from collectors outside the city who have been victimized. The party lives in an old shanty on the north side, and from appearances would show that the man never owned a dollar in his life. A dealer from Indiana, who received a letter from the accused party offering the stamps for sale, came to town the other day on a special train and was going to buy several hundred sets, but on going to the house was told that the stamp man was down in the city. "I am out 25 cents and the fare," said the hoosier, "and am going home." Another dealer went to the house but received the same answer, that the stamp man was down in the city. The matter will be brought before the post office authorities with additional proofs, but in the meantime take warning that Columbian stamps cannot be secured at such bargains, for if they could there would be plenty of buyers in this city, but as yet they have only been offered to collectors in other cities.

The Columbian Stamp Co., P. O. Box 590, Chicago, have suspended operations and are trying to straighten matters. It is better so.

J. A. Pierce's first auction sale of World's Fair postal rarities and a large collection of U. S. and foreign stamps will take place about the 1st of April. The catalogue will be a novelty and will be sent on application.

It is probable that Chicago will have a new post office, to be the finest in the country.

Prices of Columbian stamps will soon take a great jump upward. Only a few of the lower values can be procured. The 3, 4, 6, 8 and 15 cents are entirely sold out and no more can be had at this office, and we hear the same to be the case in the New York, Boston and Kansas City post offices.

The United States Coin and Stamp Exchange hold their first auction sale on the evening of February 26th, at their rooms in the Masonic Temple. There are 150 lots, all U. S. stamps, and will be sold to the highest bidder without reserve.

All Canadian collectors should join the Philatelic Society of America. Fine Exchange department and separate one for Canada; fees, 10 cents; dues, 25 cents; for benefits, etc., address W. R. Ashcroft, 120 North 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

C. E. Severn has secured second prize in the writing contest in *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News*. We congratulate you brother, "Shake."

## EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

**TERMS**—Half cent per word each insertion, payable in advance. No exchange notice will be received for less than 15 cents. No display allowed.

**FREE**, a rare stamp, to all sending for my fine approval sheets at 40% discount. I send out good saleable stamps only. I desire exchange with foreign countries. Collectors sending me any number of stamps of their country will receive the same number from mine. W. A. Ruggles, Neponset, Mass.

**WANTED**, cigarette cards, Admiral and Sweet Caporal actresses. Will give stamps from my sheets in exchange at the rate of 1 cent a card. Only perfect cards taken. W. A. Hinman, Box 520, Clyde, N. Y.

## STAMP DEALERS' DIRECTORY

A two or three-line advertisement under this heading \$5.00 per year, payable in advance. Extra lines \$1.50 each.

**BENSON, WM. C.** 204 Victoria St., London, Canada. Foreign exchange desired. Send 100 or more stamps of your country and receive same number of Canada and U. S. Fine approval sheets at 40% discount. Reference required. (32)

**BOYD, L. B.** 469 Colborne St., London, Canada. Foreign correspondence solicited. Send 50 to 200 stamps of your country and receive same number of Canadian. (32)

**PIERCE & PETERSON** 191 Clark Street, Chicago, Ill., U. S. A. Wholesale dealers in U. S. Postage Stamps. Columbians our specialty. Wholesale list sent free on application. Collections bought.

**THE NORTHWEST** Well printed, ably edited, first-class articles by best authors. 25c. per year. 12 and 14 So. 2nd St., Minneapolis Minn.

## DO YOU WANT SNAPS?

Then send for some of our approval sheets at 40% discount. They contain many of them. But send first-class reference or you won't get them.

## THE ACHARD CO.,

125 Nicollet Ave., - Minneapolis, Minn.

## EXCHANGE.

We offer in exchange square cut 2c. Columbian envelopes, in lots of 100 or more, for the same number of Canada envelopes or wrappers, or 1/2c., 10c., or 8c. adhesives; or 100 for ten 20c., or four 50c. adhesives. All values of Columbian stamps for sale at wholesale. Price list free.

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**SEND** for our Fine Approval Sheets, at 40 per cent. commission. Send now before you forget. Our new PRICE LIST of Sets and Pockets is out, send for it FREE on application.

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Here is a Wonder  
of the Age . . .

Packet No. 23, contains 75 varieties of choice Stamps, such as Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Chili, Peru, Malta, Italy, Old Scandinavia, fine old Japan, Mauritius, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Tonga, Promos, Cape of Good Hope, China, Shanghai, etc. An A 1 bargain. Price 75 cents. POST PAID.

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